

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the patent application of: )  
Mark W. Arends )  
Title: Starting Block With Connected Pedals ) Art Unit  
Serial No. ) Examiner:  
Filed )

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

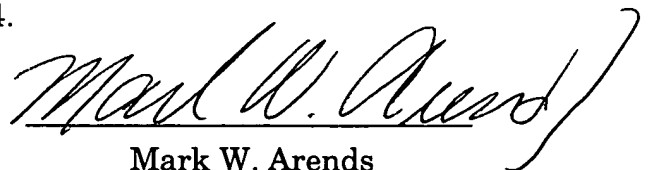
I, Mark W. Arends, declare that I am a citizen of the United States of America.

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled *Starting Block With Connected Pedals*, the specification of which is enclosed. I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of the application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued therefrom.

I hereby appoint Philip L. Bateman, Registration Number 30,127, my attorney, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. Please address all correspondence and direct all telephone calls to Customer Number 007,723, which is currently Philip L. Bateman, P.O. Box 1105, Decatur, Illinois 62525; Telephone Number (217) 429-6400.

Dated this 15 day of January, 2004.

  
Mark W. Arends